

SUMMARY OF EVALUATIONS CONDUCTED DURING THE PROGRAMMING CYCLE 2018-2023

During the programme cycle 2018-2023, 48 assessments, including evaluations, internal reviews and other evaluative exercises were conducted, managed, or supported by OHCHR. Evaluation reports are uploaded to the evaluation section on the Office's website and the UN Evaluation Group (UNEG) portal, jointly with the respective management responses and action plans to implement their recommendations.

During 2023, seven evaluations were finalized: the evaluation of the UN Human Rights annual report and annual appeal; the evaluation of the Uganda country programme; the evaluation of the project, "Advancing justice and human rights in Syria: promoting a more inclusive, victim-centric approach to justice and human rights;" the evaluation of the project to "Reinforce OHCHR's capacity to support investigative bodies;" the internal evaluation of the OHCHR country programme in Guatemala; the internal assessment of the technical cooperation programme between the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and OHCHR; and a COVID-19 lessons learned exercise. Management responses for the completed evaluations were prepared and submitted to the PBRB, including action plans for implementing their recommendations. These evaluations contribute to enhancing the relevance and effectiveness of our programmes at the country level, and the efficiency of the Office's internal processes.

Three additional evaluations were begun during 2023 and will be completed in 2024: the evaluation of the Danish-funded project on migration and climate change (CLIMIS); the "Global drive for media freedom, access to information and the safety of journalists;" and the country programme in Ukraine.

Management responses and action plans started in 2022 were finalized and submitted to the PBRB for implementation of the recommendations in evaluations conducted for the following: the Sudan country programme; the OHCHR project, "Widening democratic space, strengthening the rule of law and promoting respect for and protection of human rights in Thailand;" and the Emergency Response Teams (ERTs) programme.

OHCHR supported the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) in conducting three reviews and evaluations. These included a Synthesis review on advancing gender equality in the United Nations Secretariat and a Thematic evaluation of the Secretariat's support for the SDGs. OHCHR also assisted with an OIOS report on Strengthening the role of evaluation and the application of evaluation findings in programme design, delivery, and policy directives.

Additionally, OHCHR supported an evaluation conducted by the European Union (EU) in the context of the G5 Sahel Joint Force Compliance Framework Project.

Evaluation recommendations were monitored, and their progress reported to the PBRB every six months. Evaluation data is used to assess the current programming cycle's relevance and to prepare for the next cycle. The database and mailing list of evaluation consultants have been maintained, as well as the repositories of evaluation reports on OHCHR's intranet, external website and the UNEG portal.

OHCHR's evaluation policy has been updated in accordance with the evaluation guidance framework. A meta-analysis of evaluation findings, conclusions and recommendations relating to disability inclusion was conducted in 2023, covering the cycle of evaluations from 2018-2023 to inform the development of the next OMP. An overall meta-synthesis of evaluations and reviews conducted during the programming cycle 2018-2023 has been finalized and was also used as input into the environmental scanning phase of the OMP preparations.

Finally, gender equality and disability inclusion continued to be mainstreamed into the evaluation processes. This was reported during the reporting cycles of the UN System-wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (SWAP) and the United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy (UNDIS). As co-convenor of the UNEG Working Group on gender, disability and human rights, the Office contributed to their integration into evaluations across the UN System. In 2023, OHCHR joined the Inter-Agency Humanitarian Evaluations (IAHE) steering group, to contribute to system-wide evaluations of humanitarian contexts. OHCHR is also a member of the IAHE Working Group to revise the IAHE process guidelines.